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NAME: Mail Stop: Issue Fee; Group Art Unit: 1764
Examiner James Arnold Jr.
United States Patent and Trademark Office

FAX: (703) 872-9306

FROM: Rodney B. Carroll

DATE: May 11, 2004

RE: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/992,445
Filing Date: November 16, 2001
Atty Docket: 210105US (4081-02800)
Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance (2 pgs.)

Total Number of Pages (Including Cover Page): 3

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PAGE 1/3 * RCVD AT 5/11/2004 4:09:54 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/6 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:9727312289 * DURATION (mm-ss):01-34

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Rodney L. Porter, et al	§	
		§	Group Art Unit: 1764
Serial No.:	09/992,445	§	
		§	Examiner: Arnold Jr., James
Filed:	November 16, 2001	§	
		§	Confirmation No.: 6092
For:	A PROCESS TO PRODUCE A DILUTE	§	
	ETHYLENE STREAM AND A DILUTE	§	
	PROPYLENE STREAM		

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

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Edith Shek

Sir:

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Notice of Allowance dated February 25, 2004, and submit the following comments regarding the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance. In allowing claims 1-75, the Examiner stated that the prior art does not disclose:

"a process for producing both a dilute propylene stream and a dilute ethylene stream from a cracked gas stream wherein the process comprises the following steps in the order named: separating said cracked gas stream in a deethanizer zone to produce a C2- stream and a C3+ stream; hydrogenating said C2- stream in a hydrogenation zone to remove a portion of acetylene to produce said dilute ethylene

stream; separating said C3+ stream in a depropanizer zone to produce a C3- stream and a C4+ stream; and reacting said C3- stream in a MAPD reactor zone to convert a portion of methylacetylene and propadiene to propylene and propane to produce a dilute propylene stream."

Applicants agree that the allowed claims define patentable subject matter. Applicants further note that the quoted language set forth above appears to be a literal recitation of claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants wish to clarify the record to note that additional independent claims are present in the application, namely independent claims 11, 21, 31, 40, 49, 58, 61, 64, 67, 70, and 73, and such do not use the identical wording of claim 1 set forth above. Therefore, the additional independent claims (and all claims depending there from) should be interpreted according to the language contained therein and should not in any way be viewed as limited to or confined by the quoted language of claim 1 set forth above.

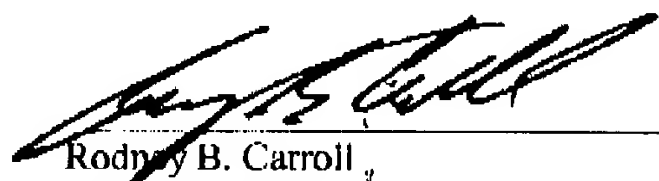
Should the Examiner disagree with any of the foregoing comments, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at his earliest convenience. Without receiving any further communication from the Examiner, Applicants will understand that the Examiner is in agreement with the comments set forth above.

Respectfully submitted,

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.

Date: 5-11-04

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